tons **258** of QWERTY keyboard **239** may be positioned in a lower portion of input area **202***a*, opposite from the alphabetical and symbolic input keys **244**.

[0085] However, when electronic device **100** is being used with a unique operation mode or with a unique program, input structure **200** may dynamically change its shape and/or configuration, or other dimensions, based on the unique operation mode or program. Continuing the non-limiting example of FIG. **13**A, FIG. **13**B may depict electronic device **100** being used to run a unique program (for example, an interactive game) that may only utilize directional buttons **258**. As a result, input structure **200** may be reconfigured to only display and/or provide directional buttons **258** to a user of electronic device **100**. As shown in FIG. **13**B, input structure **200** may adjust its configuration to only display directional buttons **258**, and may reposition directional buttons **258** to a center of input area **202***a*. Additionally in the non-limiting example and with comparison to FIG. **13**A, input structure **200** may enlarge directional buttons **258** as well. The reconfiguration, repositioning and/or resizing of directional buttons **258** of input structure **200** may be achieved by modifying or adjusting the selected holes **220** of contact portion **104** that may be illuminated by input structure **200**, as discussed herein.

[0086] In another non-limiting example shown in FIG. **14**, contact portion **104** of electronic device **100** may be patterned. With comparison to FIG. **11**, contact portion **104** of electronic device **100** may not include holes **220** (see, FIG. **11**), but rather may be patterned to show features of input structure **200** on contact portion **104**. In the non-limiting example shown in FIG. **14**, contact portion **104** may include pattern **260** to show input area boundary **240**, and individual keycap boundaries **242** to form input keys **244** in input area **202***a* (see, FIG. **10**). Additionally in the non-limiting example, contact portion **104** may be patterned **260** to form track pad boundary **250** for track pad **248** in input area **202***c* (see, FIG. **10**). Pattern **260** of contact portion **104** may be formed using any suitable technique or process including, but not limited to, etching, casting, molding, depositing, grinding, milling or the like.

[0087] As discussed herein, input structure **200** may be configured as a variety of distinct, interchangeable input devices for electronic device **100**. In a non-limiting example as shown in FIGS. **15**A and **15**B, a single input structure **200** of electronic device **100** may be configured to have two distinct operational modes or input devices, where each input device of input structure **200** is a distinct input device. As shown in FIG. **15**A, input structure **200** may be configured in a first operational mode or as a first input device, where the first input device may correspond to or may configure input structure **200** as a QWERTY keyboard **239**. Distinctly, FIG. **15**B shows input structure **200** of electronic device **100** configured in a second operational mode or as a second input device, distinct from the first input device of input structure **200** shown in FIG. **15**A. Second operational mode or second input device of input structure **200** may correspond to or be configured as a track pad **248**.

[0088] Input structure **200** may be switched or toggled between the first input device and the second input device using a mode key **262**. As shown in FIGS. **15**A and **15**B, mode key **262** included in electronic device **100** may be in electrical communication with input structure **200**. Based on a user's operational need for input structure **200**, mode key **262** may be used to toggle or switch input structure **200** between the first operational mode or first input device (e.g., QWERTY keyboard **239**, FIG. **15**A), and the second operational mode or second input device (e.g., track pad **248**, FIG. **15**B). Although shown in FIGS. **15**A and **15**B as being a button or key distinct from input structure **200**, it is understood that mode key **262** may be incorporated as an input key included in input structure **200**.

[0089] The foregoing description, for purposes of explanation, used specific nomenclature to provide a thorough understanding of the described embodiments. However, it will be apparent to one skilled in the art that the specific details are not required in order to practice the described embodiments. For example, embodiments described herein could be incorporated into a mouse or other input device to provide aforedescribed functionality to such input devices. Thus, the foregoing descriptions of the specific embodiments described herein are presented for purposes of illustration and description. They are not targeted to be exhaustive or to limit the embodiments to the precise forms disclosed. It will be apparent to one of ordinary skill in the art that many modifications and variations are possible in view of the above teachings.

What is claimed is:

1. An input structure comprising:
- a metal contact layer defining a dimensionally-configurable input region;
- a sense layer positioned below the metal contact layer;
- a drive layer capacitively coupled to the sense layer;
- a compliant layer positioned between the sense layer and the drive layer; and
- a rigid base layer positioned below the drive layer; wherein the sense layer and drive layer cooperate to sense a force exerted on the metal contact layer.

2. The input structure of claim **1**, wherein the metal contact layer flexes imperceptibly in response to the force exerted thereon.

3. The input structure of claim **1**, wherein:
- the sense layer comprises a first array of pixels; and
- the drive layer comprises a second array of pixels.

4. The input structure of claim **3**, wherein:
- each pixel of the first array of pixels corresponds to a unique pixel of the second array of pixels; and
- each pixel of the first array and corresponding unique pixel of the second array cooperate to sense a location of the force exerted on the contact layer.

5. The input structure of claim **1**, further comprising substantially rigid supports extending from the rigid base layer to the metal contact layer.

6. The input structure of claim **5**, wherein the substantially rigid supports resist deformation of the metal contact layer.

7. The input structure of claim **1**, wherein the drive layer is coupled to the rigid base layer at each corner of the drive layer.

8. The input structure of claim **1**, wherein the drive layer is disposed over and is coupled to an entire surface of the rigid base layer.

9. The input structure of claim **1**, wherein the compliant layer comprises an array of deformable components.

10. An electronic device comprising:
- a metal casing comprising:
  - a contact portion; and
  - a base portion positioned below and coupled to the contact portion;
- a group of holes formed through the contact portion of the casing;